Covered area under Radio Network in Orissa

1833. SHRI JAGADISH JANI : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) what is the total area in Orissa covered under Radio Network so far ;

(b) whether Government have any propospl to bring the uncovered areas in that State under Radio Network during the Eighth Plan ; and

(c) if so, what is the programme of Government in that direction during the financial year 1990-91?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI P. UPENDRA) : (a) 1,22,600 Sq. Kms. approximately.

(b) and (c) During the 8th Plan (1990-95), the spill over schemes of 7th Plan viz. new radio stations at Baripada, Rourkela, Behrampur, Bolangir and Bhawani-Patna are envisaged to be ready for commissioning during the year 1990-91. Besides, the power of 20 KW MW Transmitter at Jeypore is also expected to be upgraded to 100 KW MW. Some more schemes for Orissa State have been included in the draft VIII Plan of AIR, which is till in formulation stage. However, the final inclusion of the schemes in the VIII Plan will depend on availability of funds, relative priorities and approval by the Planning Commission.

Strike by Workers in Paradeep port

1834. SHRI JAGADISH JANI : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) what are the reasons of the frequent strikes by workers in Paradeep Port, Orissa ;

(b) the number of times the workers in that Port were on strike during 1988-89 and 1989-90 ; and

(c) the details of the steps taken by Government to fulfil the demands of those workers?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI K.P. UNNIKRISHNAN) : (a) to (c) There has not been frequent strikes by workers in Paradip during 1988-89 and 1989-90. However, the employees and workers of Paradip Port Trust participated in all-Ports strike from 17-4-1989 to 22-4-1989 over the demand for wage revision. It was settled by a Memorandum of Understanding arrived at on 21-4-1989. In addition, the cargo handling workers were on strike from 7-6-1989 to 9-6-1989 in protest against direct delivery of fertilizers from the vessel. In the first shift of 19-8-89, work on vessels was affected due to death of a winchman in an accident. Again in the first shift of 27-8-89, winchmen and signalmen stopped work over a local demand. The demands of local nature are discussed and settled by bilateral discussions/conciliation.

Filling up Posts of S.E. (Electric) in all India Radio

1835. SHRI ASHIS SEN : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that as per the provisions of notified R/RIs of 1988 the posts of Superintending Engineer (Electric) in C.C.W. All India Radio are to be filled up 100 per cent by promotion failing which by transfer on deputation ;